

COLLEGE NIGHT EDITION

The Alabamian

Vol. 90, No. 10

Saturday, February 13, 2016



Purple side victory a swashbuckling good time



By REED STRENGTH

This year, Purple side brought the audience along on an adventure on the high seas. Their 2016 show opened with the ragtag crew of the Fate's Revenge singing a shanty about the long journey home during "Tides Are Turning." At the song's end, First Mate Roger pens a letter to his long distance friend, the barkeep Iris. Once on land, the Fate crew convenes at the The Brig bar owned and operated by the highly flirtatious Madame. Iris and Roger reconvene, only for the barkeep to badger the pirate about all the adventures he and the Fate's crew experienced.

The Captain of the Faithful announces that he is ready to become a landlubber after a life of sailing the high seas. He looks to Roger to fill his boots, as does the rest of the crew.

The frightful first mate does not want the role, a sentiment Iris doesn't understand. She feels as though she is toiling away her days in the landlocked Brig. Conversely, Roger argues that the pirate's life is a job, not a dream. The duo belt out their competing viewpoints in "To Be In Your Place."

In a frustrated outburst, Roger blurts Iris will never be a pirate because she is a girl. Iris becomes irate, telling Roger to shove off as she attempts to find her own crew.

The Fate's scurvy dogs Rosie and Stern find Iris as she plots. The two bully Iris and command her to return to the Brig to swab the bar. She challenges the two just as Roger returns to the scene.

The first mate attempts to help his friend, only to be pushed back by Rosie. However, the barkeep holds her own and manages to take down both of the goons herself.

The Captain runs in just as Roger stands over the two unconscious crewmen. The Captain interprets Roger as the victor of this fight and compliments his piratical prowess.

Once everyone is gone, Iris sings about her frustrations further. "I've got to take a stand/they say I can't keep up/but I know I can," she tells the crowd.

With fire in her heart, Iris sneaks aboard Fate's Revenge



The crew of the Fate's Revenge casts a mighty PV against the tides during the show's finale.

Photos courtesy of Cocoa Laney

buttoned up in a long coat and tri-cornered hat. Despite her disguise, she is immediately identified as an intruder by the crew.

After testy negotiations, the captain tasks her and the high flying duo of Trevon and Devonte to swab the deck. Iris impresses the crew by completing the chore with style as the Fate's Crew sing about washing away those "Ocean Blues."

After her show of cleaning craftsmanship, the crew dubs their new member "Jack." This attention on the new "guy" rustles Roger, and he expresses doubt that Jack will last long as a crewman.

Back at the Brig, Iris struggles to maintain her new double life as a barkeep and pirate. She sees Roger and asks him his thoughts about "Jack." Still sore after the attention on the ship, Roger accuses Iris of having a thing for

Jack.

Iris rebukes this accusation and leaves in a huff. It's not long before "Jack" strolls into the bar, only to find a pair of ladies giving Roger unwanted attention. She confronts the firstmate, which only further feeds Roger's jealous suspicion.

The two are soon pressured into a "battle of constitutions" where, rather than brawn, they fight with booze. The prize on the table includes the coveted title of captain. The Brig fills with the "Drinking Song" as the two rivals suck down swill in fierce competition. Eventually, Roger defaults and sinks into his chair, as the crew yells for their new Captain Jack.

After the contest, a frustrated Madame asks the Captain if he has seen Iris anywhere. The Captain says no but wonders aloud how Iris always seems to go miss-

ing whenever Roger is around.

Roger, his spirits adrift, runs into a chipper Iris. She thinks he will be happy now that the pressure of captain is off his shoulders. Roger, however, lambasts Iris for not being there to support him. He fears he's lost not only the captain's title, but also his respect.

As Roger leaves Iris, Madame finds her missing barkeep. She offers Iris a familiar tri-cornered hat, which Iris all too willingly takes back, only to realize the jig is up. Madame scolds her employee not for ditching work but for abandoning her sense of self and becoming someone she's not.

Iris contemplates Madame's message and sings a reprise of "Take A Stand" as she realizes what truth she must come to terms with.

The crew are ready to set sail under Captain Jack. A reluctant Roger comes by to pick up the

last of his things. The Captain confronts him and tells his first mate that he is always welcome aboard the Fate's Revenge.

Before they set sail, Jack stands up to her new crew and reveals her true identity as Iris. The crew instantly mutinies. Roger comes to aid his former rival, only for the two to face a long drop off the plank.

Suddenly, the original Fate's Captain calls to the crew to reveal yet another secret: She is also a woman. The crew is crushed at the reveal. She defends Iris for inspiring her to be her true self and says she is even more deserving of captain.

After some reluctance, the crew accepts these new terms, and the whole boat dances to the show's finale. As the show ends, the characters raise a mighty PV against the tides.



The barmaids dance a jolly jig at the pirate's favorite watering hole, The Brig.

Photos courtesy of Cocoa Laney



An uneasy "Jack" smiles as "he" is declared the winner of the battle of constitutions.

Photos courtesy of Cocoa Laney

Old Golds find lasting love

By REED STRENGTH

A dozen roses. A cemetery hill. A 27 year old copy of Montevallo Today.

These three ingredients are essential to a love story paved on the brick streets of Montevallo. As one side celebrates a hard-earned victory on Feb. 13, one local couple will look on the Palmer stage and recall a memory that helped lay the foundation for 25 golden years of marriage.

The first time Joe laid eyes on Mary Reid, she was dancing across the Palmer stage as Slutrina, the Tavern Wench. It was College Night 1987. Joe was supposed to be playing trumpet in the pit orchestra.

“Holy crap!” he thought.

He planned to talk to her at the Victory Party afterwards. She never showed. The eye of Joe’s

affection left UM after the semester ended to attend the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Two years later, Mary found a copy of Montevallo Today saved for her on the kitchen counter of her mother’s house in Montevallo.

On the cover was the boy in the pit, now the UM SGA President and a promising accounting major. “I’ve picked out the boy you’re gonna marry,” Mary’s mother proudly declared to her.

Mary had just gotten out of a serious relationship that came to a bad end. She saw Joe’s many impressive accolades as the signs of just another “straight laced boy.” She had just transferred back to UM and wasn’t interested.

One night, Mary received a call from her best friend, Meredith Rushing. “You’re never gonna believe who wants your number,” said Rushing. “It’s the SGA

president.” Mary later reluctantly agreed to go on a date with Joe.

“You’ll never guess who I just got off the phone with,” Mary later teased to her mother.

“I know. It’s the boy from the magazine,” her mother said confidently.

Despite a burgeoning romance, Joe’s imminent graduation predicted an early end. Their friends affectionately took bets at how long it would take before the relationship unraveled. The more generous said three months. The true doubters said two weeks.

The two managed to beat the odds, despite a distance of over 250 miles. Joe would often leave from his office in Memphis, Tennessee on a Friday only to drive back from Montevallo on a Sunday.

See OLD GOLDS, Page 4



Mary Howard shows off her ring right after Joe’s golden engagement. Photo courtesy of The Montage



Jasmyne Ray | The Alabamian

Jared Wright and Laura Binford show off their College Night style in ensembles that use their respective side’s colors as accents.

Fashion on the bricks

By JASMYNE RAY

Next to the performances and athletic events, fashion is the most important element of the College Night season. By simply adding a hint of purple or a touch of gold to an ensemble, you’re showing the entire campus which side you’re rooting for.

Once you’ve been here for a while and have picked a side, you absently start adding pieces of clothing in your side’s colors to your wardrobe.

“It’s a way for people to express themselves and how much they love their side,” said Laura Binford, Purple side cheerleading co-captain. “And it’s really interesting to see what people come up with on both sides.”

If you’re a Purple, you’ll stick to the side’s classic purple and white, but with added cow print accents. For Golds, it’s as simple as pairing an all black ensemble with varying shades of yellow or gold accessories.

“I normally like to go with something cute but comfortable because [I’m] going to be doing a lot of yelling and jumping around

and running,” said Jared Wright, choreographer of the Gold side show.

Cowprint is a rare wardrobe staple for Purples. According to Binford, it’s difficult to find cow print things.

A rare cow print accessory that Binford owns is a snapback she got from a thrift store in North Carolina.

“If you see anything cow print, you buy it,” she said. “You just get it because it’s very rare.”

Black is a good, neutral color that most people stick to when trying to figure out what goes well with their purple or gold pieces.

“If you can start out with black, you can add little pops of things, pops of purple or gold,” Wright said.

Binford, a self proclaimed “purple purist,” typically tries to stay away from gold and black because they’re the opposing sides’ colors but finds that it’s difficult to do since most of her clothes are black.

The most underrated and overlooked parts of College Night fashion, however, are the side buttons.

“It’s really interesting to see strangers and identify them as part of my purple family,” Binford said. While attending Bonnaroo last summer, she was constantly questioned about the meaning behind her PV buttons.

“For someone who isn’t a Purple or Gold, or if they’ve never heard of College Night, it can start a conversation,” Wright said. “It’s really nice to see people having the Purple and Gold pride around campus.”

For each night of the shows, the sides abide by a dress code: side shirts on Wednesday, casual side color attire on Thursday, semi formal attire on Friday and formal attire on Saturday.

“When that curtain raises I like to see everything that’s come together,” Binford said of opening night.

Wright loves seeing the effect that being in costume and performing live have on the cast. “Seeing all that put together and seeing the choices that they make within their characters and themselves and how they take it to the next level.”

Side leaders show civility

By JASMYNE RAY

Two days before the College Night Mixer on Sept. 22, students from both Purple and Gold sides gathered together to decorate the bricks with College Night propaganda. Purple side wants YOU. Gold side wants YOU. It seemed like a regular College Night gathering with the exception that something was missing. The usual tension between the sides was nowhere to be found.

The College Night chalking was a time for both sides to put their differences aside and come together for the cause of helping students who had yet to find their home away from home. The importance of this is something this year’s male leaders know something about.

“I think Montevallo in general is just a place for wayward travelers and people who didn’t necessarily feel at home wherever they were from, or they didn’t fit in at their high schools. They come here, and they get to find a home,” James Powers, Purple leader said. “And I think Purple side is that home for a lot of people.”

Powers found his side his freshman year when Korey Wilson, a student who would go on to become Purple side leader, came up to him when he was sitting alone in the caf. Wilson invited him to sit with some other Purples. The rest, as they say, is history.

“I got to sit with these people who I had never seen before from all these different cultures and backgrounds,” Powers said. “And [Korey] was just like ‘Hey man, you never have to sit by yourself again. You can sit with us.’”

Feeling that some things didn’t

quite click with him on Purple side, Gold side Leader Michael Cleary made the switch after his freshman year.

“Gold side is a place where we don’t want anyone to feel like they have to be a Gold,” Cleary said. “We want people to come to our side and be like ‘Yes, this is a place where I know I can thrive.’”

It’s no secret that College Night is somewhat of a cut throat game. What started off as a way to honor alumni and bring students together has since turned into a battle of the sides. But that’s about to change. By putting their friendship on display and leading by example, Cleary and Powers are showing students that it is possible for both sides to coexist and play the game harmoniously.

Cleary and Powers met in passing during their freshman year, both being theater majors, but their friendship really began to solidify once they joined Lambda Chi Alpha in 2012. Since becoming side leaders, Cleary says it’s made their friendship stronger.

“We’re both very similar individuals ambition wise, and there’s a mutual appreciation for what the other is doing,” Cleary said. “Yes we are competing, but ultimately we’re just trying to do our best for our school and for our side.”

During the summer, Cleary and Powers occasionally got together to talk about the upcoming College Night season and the way they wanted things to go as far as easing the animosity between the sides. So far their efforts have proven profitable.

Powers noticed the change at



Donnie Bennett | The Alabamian

Despite being opposite College Night sides, Michael Cleary and James Powers are brothers for life.

the annual ribbon hanging when he saw Purples and Golds crossing over from their sides to talk and hang out with each other. College Night can’t be played without both sides. Who wins or loses shouldn’t be the end-all be-all of the season.

“At the end of the day, both me and Michael realize that this is a game,” Powers said. “The purpose of College Night is not to win. The purpose of College Night is to promote school unity. At the end of the day we’re still brothers

and great friends.”

There’s been a strain on this year’s College Night season because the shorter school calendar has resulted in a shorter amount of rehearsal time. Nevertheless, both sides have soldiered on to put on the best show they can.

Both leaders are excited for opening night because it will give them the chance to put their friendship on display and show the University how easy it is to get along. Once we achieve that, it will be a victory for everyone.

The Alabamian	
Farmer Hall, Behind Post Office Station 6222 Montevallo, AL 35115 alabamian@montevallo.edu	
Editor-in-Chief	Reed Strength
Layout Editor	Adrienne Dauma
Business Manager	Stephanie Howe
Managing Editor of Content	Jasmyne Ray
Photography Editor	Katie Compton
Copy Editor	Jake Smith Madison Griggs
Online editor	Lily Elmore
Contributing writers	Danielle Stallworth Russell Alicea
Contributing Photographer	Donnie Bennett Cocoa Laney
Adviser	Tiffany Bunt

Golds net 25 points against Purples in volleyball game

By DANIELLE STALLWORTH

Students, parents and alumni gathered in Myrick gym on Saturday, Jan. 30 for the College Night women's volleyball game, the first sporting event of the homecoming season.

Purples and Golds showed up decked out in their respective colors and spirit apparel. Utilizing noisemakers and signs, both sides performed cheers and chants while the players warmed up on the court.

For the majority of the game, Gold side led the Purples by several points. Both teams battled tirelessly to keep the ball off their side of the court, but in the end, the Golds defeated the Purples 25-20.

"The Purple volleyball team played their hearts out," said Roosevelt Mendez, the athletic director for the Purple Side. "Regardless of the score, I am so proud to have coached an amaz-

ing group of girls."

After the game, both sides circled up and sang their side songs. Gold Side Leader Michael Cleary assured his side that they were one step closer to earning their second Gold Victory. Purple Side Leader Hannah Stephens addressed each of the Purple team members individually and praised them for playing a great game.

"Both sides put up quite a fight," said Gold Side Leader Natalie Bonifay. "It was really great to see our girls so full of spirit after their hard work paid off. They are a great example of what it means to be a Gold!"



Golds show a GV after their 25-20 win

Jasmyne Ray | The Alabamian

Cows enter lions' den in ultimate frisbee



Jasmyne Ray | The Alabamian

By RUSSELL AUCEA

Purples and Golds took to the field Saturday Feb. 6 for a test of their Frisbee skills. Gold side took an instant lead, eventually going on to win 27-5.

Despite their loss, Purple Side Captain Brian Kirkwood was extremely proud of his players. "We practiced hard, and we knew what we were up against," said Kirkwood. "[We] weren't running for the win. We wanted to build our players and hopefully come out for a win later in the years."

For his team's Most Valuable Player (MVP), Kirkwood chose Mason Murphy, who scored two points and one assist. "We could have done a lot better. Losing that

much sucks," said Murphy. "We were stretched too thin and the wind kept us from throwing it long."

Jackson Miller, Gold Side Captain, chose Jacob Knight as his team's MVP for the game, having earned four scores and 11 assists. According to Knight, it was a full team effort and the win was not only for the team, it was for Gold side.

Even with all the pent-up emotion from College Night, the teams were able to come together and be cordial. "I like that there's no animosity and that they could come out and shake hands [regardless] of the score," said Miller. "I wish it would be this way across the board."

Purples dominate Myrick court in women's victory



By JASMYNE RAY

Purples and Golds gathered in Myrick gym on Feb. 7 for the women's College Night basketball game. Purples achieved a PV with a winning score 43-18.

In the first half, Purple side came out storming, scoring 24 points while Gold side lagged behind with only 11. Purple side kept up a great defense in the second half, while Gold side fought tirelessly till the end.

"They played with heart and

determination and with the best class I have ever seen," Gold Side Coach Allie Crook said of her team. "They fought 'til the end and played with everything they had and never gave up."

For her team's Most Valuable Player, Crook picked Haley Barnett. According to Crook, Barnett came out ready to play, never gave up even when the odds were against them and gave one hundred percent effort throughout the game.

Purple Side Captain Gerald Cunningham picked DJ Catlin as his team's MVP because of her performance during the game. Caitlin's strategy involved focusing on assists, playing forward and helping her teammates make it to the net.

Though the Purple side dominated the court, their performance on stage will remain a heavy influence on a classic College Night question: What's it gonna be?



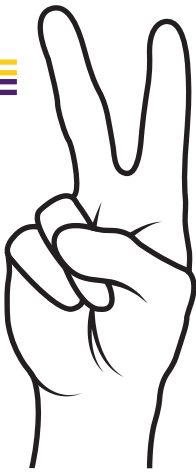
Purple player Ellie Mouyal goes for a layup during the College Night women's basketball.

Jasmyne Ray | The Alabamian

2016

Mr. and Ms. Montevallo

JAMES POWERS



HANNAH STEPHENS



College Night

Gold side gamble doesn't pay off

By JASMYNE RAY

In the exciting city of Las Vegas, the Golden Nugget Casino is the crown jewel. Hidden somewhere inside is a safe that contains cash and, even more valuable, gold bars.

With the casino's ten year anniversary quickly approaching and special guest star, singing sensation Dino Lamboni, scheduled to arrive any moment, the place is buzzing with excitement. Casino owner Jack Potts and his wife, the illustrious showgirl Violet Van Damm, say that dreams come true there, something that Wendy Wright, the new girl in town, and Joe "Bugsy" Difronzo look forward to seeing come to fruition.

Bugsy, a lowly custodian hired by Potts, finds himself wrapped up in the heist scheme of Franky "Lucky" Borelli and Vinny "Tough Guy" Polermo to steal the money and gold bars from the safe. He's reluctant to go along with the plan at first, but then he meets Wendy Wright who changes his mind about everything.

Bugsy and Wendy's worlds collide when the two literally run into each other in the lobby of the casino. Bugsy is almost immediately taken with the aspiring showgirl who had traveled all the way from Oklahoma to audition to be one of Violet Van Damm's world-renowned showgirls.

Violet and her showgirls are busy preparing the dance routine that they'll perform with Dino Lamboni, but a featured showgirl has yet to be chosen. One of the lead dancers, Beverly Schmidt,



Gold side welcomes you to the Golden Nugget casino. This hidden gem in Las Vegas holds a valuable treasure that several characters want to get their mits on.

thinks that she has the act in the bag. That is until Wendy auditions and proves that a little girl from Oklahoma has what it takes in the bright, sassy number "Make the Cut."

Bugsy and Wendy meet again when he enters her room by mistake with a master key. They

bond while talking about dreams, and he reassures her of her talent in the heartfelt ballad "Something Different, Something New."

With a newfound confidence, Wendy goes to rehearse the Dino Lamboni number but is continuously shoved by Beverly. Frustrated, she storms out of the practice. Meanwhile, Bugsy runs to meet up with Lucky and Tough Guy at their hideout. Lucky and Tough Guy sense that something is off and, in a manly number, attempt to get him to focus and keep his eyes on the prize of "Rollin' in the Dough."

Back at the casino, Wendy is waiting for Bugsy in his room and says that she's ready to quit the show. Bugsy encourages her not to, saying that it's the only way the people will be able to see

how talented she is. Offended, Wendy storms out.

Despite being upset about having lost Wendy, Bugsy goes to the gangster's hideout where everyone is meeting to discuss the final steps in the heist. He's ready to back out, but Lucky threatens him at gunpoint to go through with the plan.

The next day the casino is abuzz with people excited for Dino Lamboni's arrival and performance. While the show is going on, Bugsy, Lucky and Tough Guy sneak around the casino looking for the safe. When they find it, the trio discover that it's empty, save for a lone letter reading "I got the drop on you," a clue to go to the drop location. When he gets there, he reaches

into the trash can where the clues are usually hidden and finds another letter.

The letter is from Wendy, and she reveals that she's the one who stole the money and gold bars from the casino's safe. Silhouettes of other cast members play out the plan as Wendy's voice over explains how she got away. She says that there are bigger forces at hand that could hurt them both if she didn't get the money and gold bars to them, and she apologizes for lying to someone that she could actually see herself being with. The show ends with Bugsy singing a small a capella "One Heck of a Show" as Wendy is seen walking away through the audience.



Tough Guy and Lucky convince Bugsy to go along with the heist.



Wendy shows Violet and the other showgirls what she can do.

Old golds, cont.

The couple stayed together for two years. Joe even moved into Mary's parents house for a few months to work in Birmingham and be closer.

At the start of 1991, the couple almost never saw each other. Mary was the female Gold side leader and was committed to earning a coveted victory. Joe, meanwhile, was in the throes of accounting's "busy season." Both were subject to agonizingly long nights with little to no reprieve on the weekends.

During these two years, despite their serious romance, Joe never gave Mary a traditional bouquet of a dozen roses.

"I told her I would only give a dozen roses to the girl I was gonna marry," he said.

Their love story took a turn, of all places, on a cemetery hill in Trussville. On the afternoon of Friday, Feb. 15. Joe was attending a funeral.

"In that moment on that hill, I had an epiphany," he said. "Life is short."

Joe was set to spend the

weekend at Mary's parents house for College Night. As he drove towards the college town, he decided to take a sudden detour.

He pulled in front of Diamond World in Hoover. "What's the plan?" he thought. It was the Friday before College Night. Mary wouldn't have a free moment until the victory announcement on Saturday night. "What if she doesn't win?," he thought grimly.

Joe called Rushing to construct a plan with the help of production director Katherine Nevins.

The first part of the plan went without a hitch. The Golds won that night with their production of "A Little Knight Music."

The side circled up to celebrate the victory on the Palmer stage. "Why is there always a hole in our circle?" Mary asked the production's director Nevins.

"I don't know. Ask Joe Howard," Nevins replied with a smile.

Confused, Mary turned to the assistant director. "Why is there always hole in our circle?"

"I don't know. Ask Joe."

Joe approached through the open circle to the middle of the stage. He carried a bouquet of red and yellow roses.

"As an actress, I'm thinking 'Well that's precious! He's brought me flowers to commemorate the show,'" she said.

At this point, the couple was surrounded by screaming friends and side members.

"Count the roses," he told her.

She didn't have to count. She already knew.

Joe dropped to his knee. "You've made me happy for the last five years of my life. Let me make you happy for the rest of yours," he said as he pulled out the ring.

25 years later, the Howards have two children, one of whom is in the ensemble of this year's Gold side production "Dirty Work." Mary has not missed a single College Night since 1986 and will be in attendance Saturday night along with Joe.

Their son Ryan is ready to make his parents proud. "I want to respect their memory by putting on the best show I can put on to show them it's the same gold side all those years ago," said Ryan.

Middaugh receives College Night dedication

By REED STRENGTH

This year's College Night dedication is awarded to Dr. Laurie Middaugh.

Middaugh is the current chair of the College Night committee. Middaugh has also served as the staff accompanist and music director for the music and theater departments for almost 20 years.

Every year, the Purple and Gold Leaders designate the recipient of the dedication. This year, the four side leaders chose Middaugh based on her respect for and immense help with making Montevallo's famed homecoming tradition the spectacle that it is.

"She appreciates and respects the tradition of College Night. Without her work throughout the year, the game would not happen," said Gold Side Leader Natalie Bonifay.

Middaugh's husband Benjamin received the dedication in 2001. They are one of the only couples to both hold the title.



Marion Brown, the director of University events, called Middaugh, "a force of nature." She said this year's recipient constantly strives to make the homecoming tradition better and better.

"There is no bigger honor than a student award," said Brown. "They are your best and worst critics."

"She is a constant force of warmth and support to all of her students and always has an open door and open arms," said Purple Side Leader Hannah Stephens.